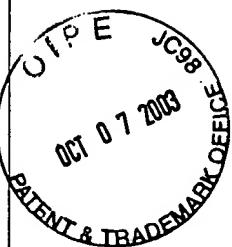


Attorney Docket
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CONFIRMATION NO. 5386

Applicant : Hidetomo UEMUKAI, et al.
Serial No. : 09/966,082 Art Unit : 1744
Filed : October 1, 2001 Examiner : Gary K. GRAHAM
For : Cleaning Process System and Cleaning Process Apparatus

#5
10/19/03

RESPONSE TO PAPER NO. 4

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

A response to the Office Action mailed September 30, 2003 (Paper No. 4) is due by October 30, 2003. Paper No. 4 required restriction between Group I of claims 1-21, drawn to a cleaning processing system, and Group II of claims 22-36, drawn to a cleaning processing apparatus.

Applicants hereby elect Group II of claims 22-36, drawn to a cleaning processing apparatus, for prosecution in this application. The election is made without traverse.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional application(s) for the non-elected claims in due course. Applicants submit that this application now is in condition for examination on the merits and early action in that regard is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

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Date : October 7, 2003

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